

**ABSTRACT**

System and method to reduce execution of instructions involving unreliable data in a speculative processor. A method comprises identifying scratch values generated during speculative execution of a processor, and setting at least one tag associated with at least one data area of the processor to indicate that the data area holds a scratch value. Such data areas include registers, predicates, flags, and the like. Instructions may also be similarly tagged. The method may be executed by an execution engine in a computer processor.